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STATINTL

Fulbright Talks Some Nonsense

Sen. Bill Fulbright, an erudite gentleman with an Oxford background, a gentle burr to his voice and a habit of drawing out his words as if he were orally egg walking, doesn't think Mr. Eisenhower should have admitted responsibility for the U-2 flight.

The Arkansan said the President should have followed historical precedent and denied knowledge. He could have said Allen Dulles of the CIA was responsible, not him—not the President. He could have accused the Russian—even of stealing the plane. Or he could have chosen any position other than to say, "I, Dwight Eisenhower, am responsible."

This, as has been pointed out, would have allowed the Russian's calloper to pipe out even more hotly the tune that there are war-mongers in this country—that militarists behind the President's back are at work against the presidential pursuit-of-peace policies.

We think Fulbright's comments are nonsense in this respect. The U. S., through Mr. Eisenhower, has been bold, blunt, forthright.

In the interval of the weekend, Sen.

Defense Chief Rodion Malinovsky was coming out with new threats of shoot-down at any passes from which planes flew over Red territory.

Hours later, Red China was claiming a territorial violation of airspace.

Malinovsky claims he's ordered such "counterattack." He claims Red capacity and shouts "lie" at the U. S. contention the Powers plane shoot-down was as a consequence of some plane or pilot failure.

The record is that for four years the U-2 was overflying Russia and the Powers plane was the first the Reds managed to "get."

The Malinovsky rumblings are directly aimed at areas in between where America has bases. Japan is one such. The Soviet Union is out further to put stress on the Western alliances and security arrangements.

This puts it up to us to be hard to the core, unyielding. This kind of demand upon us requires also that we speak boldly and bluntly. Sen. Fulbright's recommendation of equivocation would play right into Red hands. We must stand foursquare.

Fulbright says, "The whole idea of espionage is foreign to this country. We were at the time when most socialist nations were trying to know we had been able through spying to learn about their country which has a political system and a government dedicated to the destruction of the American way of life and indeed of free societies as we have known them. happily, blood cost of blood of the war."



Fulbright ... Some Other Way